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## **Lowell Police Department to Crack Down on Traffic Violations**

The Lowell Police Department (LPD) will be participating in several Massachusetts Highway Safety Division mobilizations over the course of the next 10 months. The mobilizations include Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over (during the holiday season and again in late August), Distracted Driving (April), and Click it or Ticket (May). Disobeying vital traffic laws by driving while impaired, not wearing safety belts, and driving while distracted are dangerous, potentially deadly behaviors. The mobilizations that the LPD will be participating in are designed to deter these behaviors and keep all drivers and passengers on the road safe.

Data from 2012 demonstrates the importance of obeying these traffic laws. In 2012, 23,938 crashes in Massachusetts were caused by distracted drivers (approximately 20% of all crashes). Of the 383 people who were killed in crashes, 123 (32%) were killed by crashes that involved at least 1 impaired driver. Finally, an estimated 50 lives could have been saved by safety belts. "The negative impact of failing to follow the rules of the road on driver and passenger safety is well documented. Traffic laws are meant to keep everyone on the road safe. Therefore the LPD will join numerous police departments across the state in strictly enforcing these rules," states Superintendent Williams Taylor.

LPD officers are always on the lookout for traffic violations that put everyone on the road at risk. During the mobilizations, extra officers will be out on patrol, paying extra close attention to the specific behavior the mobilization is focused on. If you violate these vital laws, chances are you will get caught. Remember, the rules of the road are in place for the safety of everyone on the road, including you and your family. Please do your part to keep yourself and everyone on the road safe.

For more information, please visit www.mass.gov/highwaysafety.

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